

**MINUTES OF STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2013 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

13/176/a PRESENT:

Members: Mr Mike Sampson (Chairman), Mr Paul Spearpoint (Vice Chairman), Mr Bruce Wilson, Mrs Janet Rose, Rebecca Merrick, Mrs Wendy Hall, Mrs Barbara Brooks and Neil Bloomfield.

Others: Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk), Mrs Sylvia Seal (District Councillor), Mr John Bailey (County Councillor), PCSO and 1 member of the public.

13/176/b APOLOGIES:

Mr Steve Hay and Mr Graham Middleton

13/177 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr Merrick declared an interest in matters concerning the Sports and Recreation Trust, Cllr Wilson declared an interest in the Hamdon Youth Group of which he is a volunteer.

Cllr Bloomfield said that after seeking legal advice he does not need to declare an interest in respect of the Charity Shop.

13/178 PUBLIC SESSION:

A resident asked what would be happening with the youth shelter and would he need to continue with the glass clearance. Cllr Sampson said that this matter would be fully discussed later in the meeting but confirmed that a letters had been received from Somerset County Council and Castle School. Cllr Sampson also mentioned that the Parish Council had agreed to remove it but a timescale needs to be sorted. Cllr Bailey asked to be copied in on the letters from Somerset County Council and Castle School.

13/179 P.C.S.O. REPORT:

The PCSO gave her report for November. There were no calls of anti-social behaviour but three incidents of theft; a CD/DVD player was stolen from a vehicle in the High Street, items were stolen from a bag at a school and a mobile phone was stolen from a pocket of a person at a pub in West Street. There were also four incidents of criminal damage; windows to a building in West Street were broken, the commemorative plaque on Duchy land was smashed; a window was broken at a dwelling in Stonehill and a vehicle in Stonehill was damaged.

The PCSO also reported that a resident had complained about the content of the PCSO report in the newsletter. The Clerk said that as it she who put the report in the newsletter and the information is only an extract from the report given to the Parish Council she would put a disclaimer in future newsletters stating this fact. **Action Clerk**

13/180 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

13/180/a Sylvia Seal – District Councillor

Cllr Seal announced that there would be no car parking charges after 2.30pm at all the car parks in Yeovil in the lead up to Christmas.

Cllr Seal passed a copy of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment to the Clerk for information. Cllr Seal agreed to get copies for Cllrs Bloomfield, Spearpoint and Hall **Action Cllr Seal**

13/180/b John Bailey – County Councillor

Cllr Bailey thanked the Parish Council for all their help over the past year. Cllr Bailey's report had been passed onto Parish Council members.

Following discussions regarding parking, signing and road crossings Cllr Bailey said that a day-time meeting needs to set up and this could come under the Local Action Group remit. Cllrs Sampson, Bloomfield, Brooks and Bailey plus the Clerk agreed to do this. Cllr Bailey mentioned that the Local Action Group would need to meet once a quarter.

Cllr Bailey said that the Hamdon Youth Group numbers are continuing to rise and that the groups at Stoke, Norton and Martock are beginning to interact with each other. Cllr Bailey also said that Parish Council members would be welcome to attend the group sessions at any time.

Cllr Bailey mentioned that the closing date for ideas for the Health and Wellbeing grant is on 28th February 2014.

13/181 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

Proposed: Cllr Brooks

Seconded: Cllr Spearpoint

Agreed: unanimously

13/182 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

13/182/a Police & Crime Commissioner Meeting

Cllr Sampson reported on the Police & Crime Commissioner meeting and said that the meeting went well with a number of Parish Council representatives attended and a variety of issues were raised.

13/183 FINANCE

13/183/a Matters for Report:

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from SALC which confirmed that the Section 137 payments under the Local Government Act 1972 for 2014-2015 have gone up to £7.20.

The Clerk also reported that the DCLG has confirmed that the Cheques Legislative Reform Order (The Legislative Reform (Payments by Parish Councils, Community Councils and Charter Trustees) Order 2013) has been laid in Parliament. This does not mean that Parish Councils can start legally using electronic payments.

13/183/b Cheques Payable:

Sarah Moore	Salary & Expenses for November	£ 444.51	<i>Chq 1859</i>
NigeNige	Groundsman Salary for November	£ 708.00	<i>Chq 1860</i>
Stable Print	December Newsletters	£ 190.00	<i>Chq 1861</i>
Castle Primary School	Tiny Turrets Nursery – Grant	£ 1,000.00	<i>Chq 1862</i>
Stoke sub Hamdon Memorial Hall	Annual Grant & Insurance	£ 2,012.78	<i>Chq 1863</i>
Stoke sub Hamdon PCC	St Mary’s Churchyard – Grant	£ 661.00	<i>Chq 1864</i>

Proposed: Cllr Spearpoint

Seconded: Cllr Wilson

Agreed unanimously

13/183/c Matters for Resolution

i) Precept – Finance Committee Meeting

The minutes and draft budget for 2014/15 were circulated to the members. Cllr Sampson asked for a resolution to be deferred until the next meeting as the proposed grant towards the precept from SSDC had not yet been confirmed. Cllr Brooks proposed to leave the resolution until the January meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Brooks

Seconded: Cllr Rose

Agreed unanimously

ii) Direct Debit Instruction

The Clerk said that at the Finance Committee meeting she had asked for her salary and office allowance to be paid by direct debit and this had been agreed in principle depending on a full council resolution. The Clerk said that she had written a letter to NatWest in anticipation for members to sign. Cllr Sampson proposed that a direct debit is set up and payments to start in January.

Proposed: Cllr Sampson

Seconded: Cllr Hall

Agreed unanimously

13/184 MEMORIAL HALL AND GROUNDS

The Clerk mentioned that it has been reported that dogs are being walked on the Memorial Hall grounds and that there the dogs mess is not being picked up. The groundsman has also reported that dogs mess is not being picked up from the footpaths around the village especially Dannings Well and Whirligig Lane making his job difficult. The Clerk asked if she could put an article in the newsletter. This was agreed. **Action Clerk**

13/185 SPORTS AND RECREATION TRUST

Cllr Sampson said that at the last meeting it was agreed to remove the youth shelter and for the Clerk to write to Somerset County Council explaining about the issues and asking for the terms of the grant to be reconsidered. Somerset County Council replied that a formal proposal was needed from the Parish Council about what could be done with the youth shelter and the Clerk read out some of the examples given some of which involved the Parish Council providing funding

towards 11-19 year olds. Cllr Sampson also read out a letter from Castle School which had been sent to the Chairman of the Sports and Recreation Trust which stated that the shelter would be a great asset to the primary school. A discussion was held on the various proposals that could be put to Somerset County Council and Cllr Sampson commented on all the funding the Parish Council gives towards the youth at present.

(Cllr Bailey declared an interest regarding the Hamdon Youth Group)

Cllr Brooks proposed that Cllr Sampson and the Clerk write to Somerset County Council to negotiate for the youth shelter to go to Castle Primary School with no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Hall seconded the proposal.

Proposed: Cllr Brooks Seconded: Cllr Hall 5 agreed: 1 abstained

Cllr Bloomfield asked who would pay for the youth shelter to be removed. Cllr Merrick pointed out that the Chairman of the Sports and Recreation Trust said that the moving of the youth shelter would no way infer any costs to the Sports and Recreation Trust. A discussion was held and it was agreed to try to get it moved without any cost to the Parish. It was also agreed for the Clerk to write to Castle Primary School. **Action Clerk**

13/186 PLANNING

13/186/a Report on Planning Applications

13/03622/FUL – erection of 18 dwellings and associated works including a new vehicular access, parking, open space and landscaping (additional information) – land adjacent East Stoke House, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon – there were no objections or observations.

13/186/b Planning Decisions and Reports

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulation 2012 The South Somerset District (Stoke sub Hamdon No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 2013 – notice was given that the order was resolved on 25th November 2013 to confirm without modification the Tree Preservation Order made by SSDC on 8th October 2013. The Order now includes 86 Alders, 39 Sycamores, 8 Hawthorns, 2 Hollies and 17 Field Maples (excluding the Ash) at land adjacent East Stoke House, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon.

13/187 CORRESPONDENCE

13/187/a Annual Clock Service

The Clerk reported that the annual service on the clock had been carried out on 9th December. The Clerk said that she had also received a letter from Smith of Derby offering a service agreement with a 15% discount for payment in advance. It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.

13/187/b Ham Hill

The Clerk said that she had been asked whether a supply of de-icing material could be provided for the steep section of Ham Hill Road between the last house and the junction to the country park and for it to be stored at the Prince of Wales. The Clerk said that asked the Countryside Manager at SSDC as this area comes under the remit of the country park. A discussion was held and it was agreed that Cllr Wilson would take three bags to the Prince of Wales from the Parish's surplus supply. **Action Cllr Wilson**

13/187/c Proposed Local Plan

An email had been received from the Planning Department stating that SSDC are undertaking a period of consultation on a number of proposed main modifications to the submitted South Somerset Local Plan 2006-2028. The consultation period ends on 10th January 2014.

(Cllr Wilson left the meeting)

13/188 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

i) Parish Highway Service Information Pack

The Clerk reported that she had received the Parish Highway Service Information pack from Somerset County Council. This pack contains information on the current levels of service the public can expect from SCC as the Highway Authority; details on reporting highway problems and information of a range of schemes to involve Parish Councils in the running of highway services in the County. These schemes are being trialled or are in place in certain Parishes in order for SCC to assess their potential. However, some of these schemes will be an extra cost to the Parish.

ii) Kissing Gate

The Clerk reported that she had been asked by Cllr Middleton to get some prices to replace the kissing gate at the bottom of Dannings Well. The Clerk said that she had received some information and it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

iii) Matts Lane

The Clerk confirmed that she had written to the resident explaining the relevant costs associated with installing a gate in Matts Lane. The Clerk said that she had also spoken with the Clerk for Ashill Parish Council regarding the process they are currently going through and that she was waiting for Somerset County Council to return her call.

13/189 **STREET LIGHTING**

The Clerk said that she had received a complaint that a street light in Queen's Crescent was not working. This is yet to be reported.

Cllr Merrick reported that there may be one light working in Brocks Mount.

13/190 **WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

13/190/a **Local Development Framework**

None declared.

13/190/b **Allotments**

None declared.

13/190/c **Local Action Group**

None declared.

13/190/d **Web Site**

None declared.

13/191 **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

None declared.

13/192 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

None declared.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th January 2014 at 7pm.